

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of Ronald N. DRAKE Confirmation No.: 9231
Serial No.: 10/774,819 Examiner: I. C. CINTINS
Filed: 02/09/2004 Art Unit: 1724
FOR: CONTINUOUS SELECTIVE ION EXCHANGE PROCESS AND APPARATUS

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

SUPPLEMENTAL RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of November 21, 2006, the Examiner requested that the Applicants elect among the following groups of claims:

Group I: Claims 21-36, 50-77 and 91-103, drawn to an apparatus for removing a component from a fluid, classified in class 210, subclass 266.

Group II: Claims 37-49 and 78-90, drawn to a method for purifying water, classified in class 210, subclass 670.

Applicants hereby elect, without traverse, Group II, which includes Claims 37-49 and 78-90 for prosecution on the merits.

In addition, Applicant elects, without traverse, the gravity settler species in claims 48, 59, 75 to be examined. Claims 37-46, 50-58, 62-74 and 78-87 are generic.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16, 1.17, and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-1283.

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Respectfully submitted,

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